



Bureau of Land Management

Utah
News

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For Immediate Release
October 1, 2015

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Rangeland Restoration Projects Planned for Kane and Garfield Counties

Efforts will restore wildlife habitat, provide community fire protection

KANAB, UTAH—Beginning Oct. 6, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM)-Utah, Color Country District, in conjunction with Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, and Utah Division of Forestry Fire and State Lands will begin two vegetation improvement projects on public and state lands in Kane and Garfield Counties. The project areas include 1,732 acres west of Kanab, along the Hancock Road, and 2,227 acres located west of Hatch.

State and federal land managers collaborated on project design, with objectives to improve watershed conditions, increase mule deer and sage grouse habitat, and reduce hazardous fuels for community wildfire protection. Identified areas will be seeded with a mix of native grasses and forbs, followed by removal of encroaching pinyon and juniper trees. Projects are scheduled to be completed by March 1, 2016.

“These projects are being supported and funded by Utah’s Watershed Restoration Initiative, a variety of private, state, and federal cooperators, including Mule Deer Foundation, Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife, Safari Club International, Utah Forestry Fire and State Lands, and Utah Division of Wildlife Resources,” said BLM Natural Resource Specialist Shawn Peterson. “Coordinating resources helps us treat larger areas and maximizes rangeland health benefits, which may not be realized without our partners.”

While the projects are in progress, please adhere to safety signs surrounding the treatment area. For more information or to add an email address to our contact list, contact Nick Howell at (435)865-3026 or Paul Briggs at (435)865-3002. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to leave a message or question for the above individual. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Replies are provided during normal business hours.

The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land, the most of any Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM’s mission is to manage and conserve the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations under our mandate of multiple-use and sustained yield. In Fiscal Year 2013, the BLM generated \$4.7 billion in receipts from public lands.

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